

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] Of particular interest in each of the two strap assemblies 18 and 21 is a flexible strap such as that designated by the reference numeral 23 in the assembly 21. The flexibility of this strap is of particular interest as it greatly facilitates installation of the strap assemblies 18 and 21. The strap 23 will typically be woven of a material having a high tensile strength, such as nylon. Other materials of interest might include polyester, propylene, or Kevlar a fiber such as KEVLAR (a trademark of DuPont De Nemours). The woven strap 23 will typically have very dull edges that are not at all threatening to an installer. Notwithstanding these significant advantages, the straps 23 can be provided with a tensile strength approaching that of some metals so they can withstand the significant vibrations commonly associated with earthquakes.

Please replace the paragraph [0049] with the following amended paragraph:

[0049] A further embodiment of the buckle 83 is illustrated in Figure 12 where elements of structure similar to those previously discussed are designated with the same reference numeral followed by the lower case letter "a." Thus, the buckle 83a includes the inner portion 85a, the outer portion 87a, the sidebar 103a, the crossbar 105a, and the U-shaped sidebar 96a. In the absence of the side flanges 92 and 94, the channel 90a is defined solely by these elements.